



**MILLENNIUM  
CHALLENGE  
CORPORATION**



Threshold Quarterly Report ★ April 2008

## Program Summary

Jordan's program is advancing reform in the areas of political rights, civil liberties, voice and accountability, and economic freedom. It is designed to broaden public participation in local political and electoral processes, increase government transparency and accountability and enhance the business climate through customs modernization.

## Program Highlights

- Legislation to reform municipal governments passed in 2007, allowing for the election of municipal mayors and council members, the reduction of the voter eligibility age from 19 to 18, and the establishment of a 20 percent quota for women in municipal councils. MCC supported get out the vote efforts and trainings for women candidates for both the municipal and national elections in 2007.
- The MCC threshold program provides support to nine pilot municipalities and to the Ministry of Social Development to complement these legal reforms. Capacity assessments were completed in these municipalities, and a grants program has been launched to help enhance service delivery and citizens' participation in local governance.
- The automated Customs clearance system ASYCUDAWorld was installed and is being used at four of 14 target Customs centers, with the remainder to be completed during the term of the threshold program. Oracle Software is also being used to support the ASYCUDAWorld system at Jordan Custom's headquarters and at Aqaba Special Economic Zone Customs. Intensive training is being conducted when the systems are installed.
- Interagency cooperation to create a single window customs facility at the borders is proceeding, and a pilot single window facility was launched in January 2008 at King Abdullah Industrial Estates Customs Center.

### Threshold Status

Status.....Implementation, Year 1

### Threshold Information

Total Amount.....\$25 million

Agreement Signed.....October 17, 2006

### Country Information

Population.....5,411,151\*

GNI Per Capita Income.....\$2,500\*

\*World Development Indicators, World Bank, 2005